

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELFAS 00072 032241Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
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-----040602Z 011265 /17

R 031601Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL BELFAST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1595
INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS BELFAST 72

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, UK, EI
SUBJECT: IRISH NATIONAL CAUCUS AT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

REF: (A) BELFAST 4 (NOTAL) (B) BELFAST 54 (NOTAL)

1. IRISH TIMES (DUBLIN NEWSPAPER) MARCH 3 CARRIED TIMES
SERVICE STORY WITHOUT DATELINE TO EFFECT FRANK MC MANUS
REPRESENTING "IRISH NATIONAL CAUCUS IN BELFAST" HAS BEEN
LOBBYING U.S. DELEGATES OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IN GENEVA
ABOUT ALLEGATIONS OF CONTINUED TORTURE AT INTERROGATION
CENTERS IN NORTHERN IRELAND. ARTICLE ALSO REPORTED MEETING
BETWEEN ALLARD LOWENSTEIN AND FATHER MC MANUS, (BROTHER OF FRANK)
LAST WEEK.

2. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, FRANK MC MANUS SAID HE HAD BROUGHT
PROOF THAT TORTURE CONTINUES IN NORTHERN IRELAND. THE ALLEGED
TECHNIQUES INCLUDE SLEEP DEPRIVATION, STANDING SPREAD-EAGLED,
BUFFETING OF NERVE MUSCLES IN BACK OF NECK, STRIKING IN PLACES
NOT EASILY MARKED, BRIGHT LIGHTS, CONSTANT INTERROGATION BY
TEAM AND ISOLATION OF PRISONERS FROM FAMILY AND LAWYERS ACCORDING
TO MR. FRANK MC MANUS, SITUATION ARISES FROM "....FACT THAT THE
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SECURITY FORCES NOW HAVE UP TO SEVN DAYS AT THEIR DISPOSAL.
IF YOU HAVE A MAN IN CUSTODY FOR SEVEN DAYS, YOU CAN DO WITH
HIM WHAT YOU WILL. YOU CAN ABUSE HIM PHYSICALLY, AND THE
MARKS WILL HAVE DISPEARED IN SEVEN DAYS."

3. COMMENT: THIS FIRST REFERENCE OF WHICH CONGEN AWARE TO
EXISTENCE IRISH NATIONAL CAUCUS BRANCH IN BELFAST. FRANK MC

MANUS IS FORMER M.P. HE IS GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS "INDEPENDENT
REPUBLICAN" OR "NATIONALIST". HE IS NOT RPT NOT CONSIDERED
TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH MOST EXTREME REPUBLICAN MOVEMENTS.
RECENT PRESS ACCOUNTS OF POLICE ACTIVITIES IN IRELAND AND
BRITAIN AS WELL AS NORTHERN IRELAND HAVE POINTED, IN SIMILAR
PHRASING, TO EXTENDED PERIODS OF QUESTIONING PERMITTED UNDER
VARIOUS EMERGENCY ACTS AS CONTRIBUTING TO POLICE BRUTALITY.
THIS SUGGESTS A CAMPAIGN AGAINST SECTIONS OF EMERGENCY LEGISLATION
MAY BE UNDERWAY.
SPICER

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Message Attributes

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